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| Information Disclosure Statement | Application Number: | |
| | Application Filing Date: | January 27, 2004 |
| | Examiner: | |
| | Art Unit: | |
| | Attorney Docket No.: | 2002-0447 |
| | First Inventor: | Sihem AMER-YAHIA <i>et al.</i> |
| | Title of Invention: | PHRASE MATCHING IN DOCUMENTS HAVING NESTED-STRUCTURE ARBITRARY (DOCUMENT-SPECIFIC) MARKUP |

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 are brought to the examiner's attention:

- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0007987 (Igata) discloses creating indexes and searching structured documents, mentioning XML at [0007] and [0106], and focusing on enabling a sibling relationship between document parts to be included in search conditions (Summary of the Invention).
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0027482 (Ono *et al.*) discloses searching documents in a variety of data formats, including XML, "without making an operator feel the difference of media or data format" [0006].
- U.S. Patent No. 6,631,373 (Otani *et al.*) discloses a segmented document indexing and search arrangement, vaguely mentioning XML (column 12, line 8) as an alternative document structure that could be searched.

Because all cited references are U.S. Patents or U.S. Patent Application Publications, it is not necessary to submit copies of the references. 1276 OG 55 (August 5, 2003).

Applicants request that the examiner initial the accompanying Form PTO-1449 and mail a copy of the initialed form to Applicants' representative's correspondence address, to affirmatively indicate official consideration of the documents.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 27, 2004

For Customer No. 26652
Voice: 301.464.0431

By: 

Raymond C. Glenny, Esq.
Registration No. 32,413

| Form PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation | | | | Attorney Docket 2002-0447 | | Application No. | | |
|--|------|------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | | Applicant Sihem AMER-YAHIA <i>et al.</i> | | Examiner | | |
| | | | | Application Filing Date January 27, 2004 | | Group Art Unit | | |
| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials | Cite | Patent or Application Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date | |
| | A | 2001/0007987 | 7/12/2001 | Igata | | | | |
| | B | 2001/0027482 | 10/4/2001 | Ono <i>et al.</i> | | | | |
| | C | 6,631,373 | 10/7/2003 | Otani <i>et al.</i> | | | | |
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| Foreign Patent Documents | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials | Cite | Document Number | Date | Country | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Translation |
| | L | | | | | | | Yes No |
| | M | | | | | | | Yes No |
| | N | | | | | | | Yes No |
| | O | | | | | | | Yes No |
| | P | | | | | | | Yes No |
| Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| | Q | | | | | | | |
| | R | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Signature | | | | | Date Considered | | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant. | | | | | | | | |